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COUNTRY

Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT NO.

TOPIC

Military Information from Luckenwalde

EVALUATION

see below

PLACE OBTAINED

25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT

20 to 27 December 1951

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 16 January 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES

3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

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1. On 20 December 1951, source learned that Soviet troops had completely vacated the officers' billets on Karl Liebknecht Strasse, the Kech premises and the post office in Luckenwalde (N 53/Z 90). The Norddeutsche Maschinen Fabrik on Industriestrasse, the officers' billets on Am Schieferling, the cooperative bakery, and the piano factory were about 80 percent vacated. Soviet troops started vacating the restricted area on Grabenstrasse.
2. Acquaintances of source said that the army headquarters and troop units from Luckenwalde had started moving to Wuensdorf (N 53/Z 91) in the middle of December 1951. It was rumored that new troops would be stationed in Luckenwalde. There was much resentment among the local population because the Soviets had completely stripped the officers' billets and the officers' mess in Cafe Hennig.
3. On 21 December, only a rear detail was observed located in Stalag I, south of the road fork formed by the roads from Luckenwalde to Frankenfelde and Frankenfoerde. Only a few windows of the four low wooden barracks buildings in the camp were lighted during the evening. Seven 57-mm guns were pulled out of the artillery storage sheds in the uninhabited western section of the Stalag on 20 December. The guns were not seen there again. Trucks each carrying billeting equipment and four soldiers with red-bordered black epaulets, left the Stalag. Two officers wearing artillery insignia were observed with the trucks.
4. On 21 December, Stalag II, on the Luckenwalde-Frankenfoerde road, was occupied by about 300 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. All quarters were lighted after sundown. 25X1
5.
6. Troops, who wore red-bordered black epaulets and were supervised by a major, were observed loading billeting equipment of all kinds from the buildings at the intersection of Kirchhofsweg and Neue Baruther Strasse on trucks

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CLASSIFICATION

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- [REDACTED]
7. Military telephone lines which remained included: those from the restricted area on either side of Luckauerstrasse to the Volkspolizei Kreis headquarters on Bolitzer Strasse via Baruther Strasse; to the Soviet Komendatura on former Schuetzenstrasse; and to the restricted area on Grabenstrasse via Gruenstrasse and Dahmstrasse.
 8. The Koerner Schule in Zinnstrasse was unlighted on the evenings of 20 and 21 December. No troops were observed in or at the school on these two days.
 9. On 21 December, the emplacement of four well camouflaged 76-mm AA guns were observed on Gottowerstrasse. Crews of from 6 to 8 soldiers were seen practicing aiming with each gun.
 10. The buildings in the restricted area on Grabenstrasse were about 20 percent lighted on the evening of 21 December. Sedan [REDACTED] occupied by field-grade officers, was seen entering the restricted area.
 11. On 21 December, the former Norddeutsche Maschinen Fabrik on Industriestrasse was occupied by about 100 troops who wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. After sundown, the main building of the plant was brightly lighted and apparently occupied to capacity, whereas the two wooden buildings and the garages were dark. The officers' billets on Schieferlingstrasse were 10 to 15 percent lighted.
 12. On 20 and 21 December, soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets removed furniture from the billets on Burgstrasse and loaded it on trucks [REDACTED]. A lieutenant colonel with artillery insignia, a major, and a senior lieutenant were observed with the troops.
 13. On 21 December, source observed that the Soviet commissary on Am Markt was open to civilian customers. Almost no sales were made in two other Soviet commissaries at the intersection of Parkstrasse and Ernst Thaelmannstrasse.
 14. Only the top floor of the Hindenburg Schule was occupied by troops on 27 December.
 15. The restricted area on either side of Luckauerstrasse was not occupied by Soviet troops prior to 27 December. The two generals who had been billeted there departed and were no longer seen at the post. Most of the Soviet personnel left in the evening, riding on trucks [REDACTED].
 16. Almost all the equipment of the motor vehicle repair shop in the restricted area on Grabenstrasse was removed by 27 December. It was hauled off on trucks [REDACTED].
 17. The field bakery on Holzstrasse was completely evacuated by 21 December. The equipment had been dismantled and hauled away.
 18. On 25 December, source observed that the AA guns previously emplaced on Gottowerstrasse had been removed.
 19. After being temporarily emptied of troops, the Norddeutsche Maschinen Fabrik was again occupied by about 100 officers and EN with red-bordered black epaulets on 21 December. The personnel had arrived on bus [REDACTED] and, according to a local resident, were to leave again.

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20. On 27 December, the former komendatura building was still occupied to capacity by troops.
21. On 27 December, the Soviet main commissary on Kaethe Kollwitz Strasse was partly cleared of stocks. A German employee stated that this and the other affiliated commissaries were to be completely cleared during the course of January 1952 and moved to Wuensdorf. The German help in the commissary were to follow the commissary to Wuensdorf.
22. The officers' billets on Breitestrasse, the Kech office on Pauerstrasse and the former agricultural bank on Am Markt were completely emptied by the Soviets prior to 21 December. The officers' mess was returned to its German owner, after truck [] had hauled away the remaining furniture on 21 December. *

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